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Programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Letter dated 27 March 2015 from the Under-Secretary-General for Management addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee

In his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/6 (Sect. 1)), the Secretary-General proposed the establishment of a United Nations Partnerships Facility to strengthen the Organization's capacity to leverage partnerships in support of the mandates provided by States Members of the United Nations.

As you are aware, a decision on the proposal of the Secretary-General was not reached in the context of the consideration of the proposed programme budget in the main part of the sixty-eighth session, at which point it was deferred. Since then, the Assembly has further considered the proposal for the Facility at two subsequent sessions without reaching agreement, and has continued to do so during its current session.

The Secretary-General appreciates the extensive efforts to reach agreement on the proposal in the Fifth Committee over the past year and a half. They demonstrate a desire by Member States to come to agreement on a position that supports our shared objective of enhancing our capacity to deliver on the goals and mandates of the United Nations through harnessing partnerships more effectively. It is also clear, however, that the negotiations to date reflect significant differences among Member States and a lack of consensus on the proposed establishment of the Facility.

As such, having taken note of the positions of Member States, I wish to inform you that the Secretary-General no longer wishes the Fifth Committee to consider or to take action on the proposals related to the establishment of a Partnerships Facility contained in document A/68/6 (Sect. 1). This will enable further consideration of how best to achieve the objectives for which the proposal for a Partnerships Facility was put forward. It will also allow any subsequent proposals in this area to be informed both by the discussions that have taken place in the context of the consideration of the proposed Partnerships Facility and by the decisions of Member States on financing for development and on the post-2015 development framework.

I request that the present letter be brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Takasu**
Under-Secretary-General for Management

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